

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY AT THE WEST VALLEY DEMONSTRATION PROJECT
WEST VALLEY, NEW YORK

West Valley Demonstration Project was established by Act of Congress to demonstrate the safe solidification of liquid high-level radioactive waste and transportation of the solidified waste to a repository. Since 1982, the Project has processed more than 580,000 gallons of liquid waste. The facility has an Integrated Safety Management System, which includes an EMS, and has been awarded DOE's Voluntary Protection Program Star Status. The Project holds an Annual Earth Day Fair for the West Valley community and has conducted a Chemical Roundup where citizens can bring old or excess chemical products for recycling and reuse.

ENVIRONMENTAL PERFORMANCE

Past Accomplishments

West Valley Demonstration Project demonstrated its commitment to environmental performance in the areas of reduced use of hazardous materials and reduced solid waste. Since 1994, the facility has:

- **Reduced hazardous materials use** by 56% in its waste vitrification process.
- **Reduced hazardous materials use** by reducing lead inventory by 96%.
- **Reduced emissions of greenhouse gases** by replacing half its halon fire suppression systems.
- **Reduced emissions of NO_x** by more than 50% through replacing diesel boilers with gas boilers.
- **Reduced emissions of SO_x** by more than 85% through replacing diesel boilers with gas boilers.
- **Reduced solid waste** by recycling 93 tons of structural steel and 30,000 square feet of canvas-like material from a dismantled storage tent.

Future Commitments

West Valley Demonstration Project also committed to continued environmental stewardship. By 2003, the facility will:

- **Reduce hazardous solid waste** by completing vitrification of radioactive waste and continuing implementation of a facility-wide waste reduction program.
- **Reduce emissions of greenhouse gases** by replacing remaining halon fire-suppression systems.
- **Reduce vulnerability and potential for release** of spent nuclear fuel assemblies by disassembling, cleaning, and shipping the assemblies off-site for disposal.
- **Reduce vulnerability and potential for release of asbestos** by removing 22% of asbestos currently installed at WVDP.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

AT A GLANCE

Industry Sector:	SIC 9999
Business:	Processes liquid radioactive waste
Facility Employees:	500-1,000
Accomplishments:	Reduced hazardous material use Reduced air emissions Reduced solid waste
2003 Commitments:	Reduce hazardous solid waste Reduce greenhouse gas emissions Reduce vulnerability and potential for release
Address:	10282 Rock Springs Road West Valley, NY 14171
Web Site:	www.wv.doe.gov

West Valley Demonstration Project has frequent contact with a local community organization, the Coalition on West Valley Nuclear Wastes, and a Citizen Task Force. West Valley also has built a strong relationship with the Seneca Nation of Indians, whose ancestors occupied the Project site. WVDP has frequent public hearings and opportunities for comment on major initiatives. WVPD also has quarterly public meeting, an annual open house, and hosts tours and site visits for school and other groups. The Project publishes an Annual Site Environmental Monitoring Report that is available on its website, www.wv.doe.gov.